GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:440
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
RAILWAY REFORMS COMMISSION
B.K. PARTHASARATHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Railway Reforms Commission to go into the problems of Indian Railways with a view to suggesting remedial measures; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE)

(a) & (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 440 BY SHRI B.K. PARTHASAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24-08-2000 REGARDING RAILWAY REFORMS COMMISSION.

(a) & (b) The Hon`ble President in his address to the joint sitting of the Parliament on 25-10-99 has, inter alia, announced that ` a Railway Reforms Commission will be set up to evolve a new resource mobilisation strategy, rationalise tariff, prioritise the project portfolio, and urgently fulfill the unmet needs of Railway safety`.

In the meanwhile, a Railway Expert Group headed by Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Director-General, National Council of Applied Economic Research, comprising members from financial institutions, industry, economic research centres has been constituted by the Ministry of Railways to examine the financing requirements, identify sources of funding of the estimated investments and to study models of structure and ownership of rail transport facilities etc. to optimise the use of rail transport. The Railway-Expert Group is expected to submit its report by the end of September, 2000. A view on the terms of reference of the proposed Railway Reforms Commission will be taken only after the report of the Expert-Group has been received.